

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) A method for preservation and/or treatment against bacterial infection and/or inflammation in an ophthalmological surgery site, comprising applying a pharmaceutical composition containing a viscoelastic substance as a surgical protecting agent for ophthalmology and an antimicrobial agent mixed in the viscoelastic substance, so as to make the pharmaceutical composition directly contact an anterior chamber, endothelium of cornea, lens capsule and a passage of aqueous humor.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the viscoelastic substance is selected from a group consisting of hyaluronic acid, nontoxic salts thereof, chondroitin sulfuric acid, nontoxic salts thereof, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, and a mixture of these compounds.

25. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the viscoelastic substance is a mixture of sodium hyaluronate and chondroitin sulfuric acid.

26. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further contains an anti-inflammatory agent.

27. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the surgery is cataract surgery or glaucoma surgery.

28. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the viscoelastic substance is selected from a group consisting of hyaluronic acid, nontoxic salts thereof, chondroitin sulfuric acid, nontoxic salts thereof, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, and a mixture of these compounds.

29. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the viscoelastic substance is a mixture of sodium hyaluronate and chondroitin sulfuric acid.

30. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further contains an anti-inflammatory agent.